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3 Feb 1965 - MFR by [] sub: of EDP
Centralization vs. Decent./at NSA

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[] learned from an NSA computer type that the policy of centralization proved unmanageable in NSA and had been abandoned in favor of more flexible policy which allowed almost any deployment of hardware and human resources, according to the best management judgment for each situation. There was no rule or policy at NSA against placing a computer with the user component--the user gets what he needs for his projects. He can either use central resources or his own.

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[] was surprised at this apparent maximization of decentralization of computer activities at NSA in regard to hardware, design and programming skills.

Questioned whether 3rd generation didn't constitute a major push toward centralization and a shift for NSA policy back toward centralization, the NSA fellow said "No," but another NSA R&D fellow disagreed on this point.

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[] recommended convening a technical session with OEL, OSA, OSI, & NPIC to identify common computing themes and plan for more efficient and effective ~~xxxxx~~ way to proceed in the Agency computing program.

judgment
3 Feb. 1965 - [] set up a
tech. committee to review proposals
& recom. a general purpose
analog to digital converter.
OCS then recom. to DD/S&T. []
funding by OEC/STSPIN & OCS equipment.

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17 Dec 1964

OCS received first report on IBM's
third generation computer, System 360,
from Executive Officer [] who
attended seminar at IBM Poughkeepsie
plant and saw the 360 in assembly and
test. The unified/uniform nature of
the system promised relative stability
for a good period which made purchase
of the system less risky.

Overriding importance of system
programming under the new system was
brought out and represented 50% of the
computer center's capability using the new
equipment.

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